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Message Text

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM PA

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT NEW YORK TIMES KATHLEEN TELTSCH BY-LINER, TUESDAY, JULY 18, HEADED "SOUTH AFRICAN HINTS AT CONFLICT IN U.N. OVER NAMIBIA."

2. UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., JULY 17--SOUTH AFRICA'S CHIEF DELEGATE HINTED TODAY THAT A NEW ACCORD ON INDEPENDENCE FOR SOUTH-WEST AFRICA COULD BE JEOPARDIZED IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TRIED TO DECIDE THE STATUS OF WALVIS BAY, THE TERRI-TORY'S ONLY DEEP-WATER PORT.

3. HOWEVER, J. ADRIAAN EKSTEEN, SOUTH AFRICA'S ACTING CHIEF DELEGATE, STOPPED SHORT OF SAYING HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD RENEGE ON ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE INDEPENDENCE PLAN PROPOSED
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JOINTLY BY FIVE WESTERN COUNTRIES--THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN, FRANCE, CANADA, AND WEST GERMANY.

IN WHAT HAS BEEN CALLED A MAJOR TRIUMPH FOR WESTERN
4. IN WHAT HAS BEEN CALLED A MAJOR TRIUMPH FOR WESTERN NEGOTIATORS, THE PLAN WAS APPROVED LAST WEEK BY THE GUERRIL-LA GROUP THAT HAS FOUGHT SOUTH AFRICAN CONTROL OF THE AREA

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FOR 11 YEARS.

5. HOWEVER, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE NATIONS WERE SAID TO HAVE ENRAGED OFFICIALS IN PRETORIA, THE SOUTH AFRICAN CAPITAL, ON SATURDAY BY SAYING THEY WOULD INSIST IN THE COMING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE THAT WALVIS BAY, AN ENCLAVE OF 25,000 INHABITANTS, "SHOULD BE" AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NATION THAT IS TO BE CALLED NAMIBIA.

6. OBVIOUSLY DISAGREEING, MR. EKSTEEN INSISTED ON SOUTH AFRICA'S SOVEREIGNTY ON THE BASIS THAT ITS ADMINISTRATION OF THE ENCLAVE PREDATED ITS ASSUMPTION OF CONTROL OVER SOUTH-WEST AFRICA UNDER A 1920 LEAGUE OF NATIONS MANDATE. THE UNITED NATIONS INVALIDATED THE MANDATE 12 YEARS AGO IN AN ATTEMPT TO WREST THE AREA FROM SOUTH AFRICA'S WHITE MINORITY REGIME.

7. SOUTH AFRICA WILL DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF WALVIS BAY WITH THE NEW NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT BUT NOT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, MR. EKSTEEN SAID IN ONE OF THE FEW NEWS CONFERENCES GIVEN BY THE DELEGATION SINCE IT WAS OUSTED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1974.

8. PRIVATELY, ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN DESCRIBED PRETORIA'S RESPONSE AS A "WARNING GROWL."

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9. WESTERN NEGOTIATORS WERE SAYING THAT PRETORIA KNEW THEIR POSITION ON WALVIS BAY WELL IN ADVANCE OF SATURDAY'S MEETING EVEN THOUGH IT WAS DELIBERATELY NOT COVERED IN THE COMPLICATED INDEPENDENCE PLAN FOR A CEASE-FIRE, WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS AND ELECTIONS SUPERVISED BY THE UNITED NATIONS.

10. WHILE IT WAS ALWAYS POSSIBLE THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAD MEANT TO TORPEDO THE PLAN, A WESTERN NEGOTIATOR SAID, THE NEGOTIATORS HOPED THAT MR. EKSTEEN'S STATEMENT WAS "ONLY POSTURING" BY SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT THE COUNTRY WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE ACCORD IN THE INTERESTS OF ENDING A WAR THAT HAS KEPT 20,000 OF ITS TROOPS PINNED DOWN.

11. THE PORT, IT IS ARGUED, IS NOT VITAL TO SOUTH AFRICA BUT ESSENTIAL TO THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF THE NEW NAMIBIA. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE IS SPECULATION THAT SOUTH AFRICA WANTS TO USE IT AS A BARGAINING CHIP WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO SAFEGUARD ITS MANY INTERESTS IN THE MINERAL-RICH TERRITORY.

12. MR. EKSTEEN SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS COMMITTED TO INDEPENDENCE FOR THE TERRITORY BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, BUT

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HE ALSO EXPRESSED SOME DOUBT THAT VOTING FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND ON A CONSTITUTION COULD BE COMPLETED BY THEN.

13. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, HE SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD INTERVENE IN CASE OF VIOLENCE IN THE TERRITORY OF 900,000 PEOPLE, 100,000 OF WHOM ARE WHITE.

14. HE ALSO SAID PRETORIA HAD AGREED TO THE EXPECTED APPOINTMENT OF MARTTI AHTISAARI OF FINLAND AS THE TOP UNITED NATIONS OFFICIAL DURING THE TRANSITION.

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